#### **CMPS 312**



# **Declarative UI using Jetpack Compose**

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## **Outline**

- 1. Jetpack Compose Key Concepts
- 2. UI Components
- 3. Modifiers
- 4. Layouts
- 5. State

# Jetpack Compose Key Concepts



https://developer.android.com/jetpack/compose/mental-model



# Declarative UI is a major trend



Describe WHAT to see NOT HOW



Flutter: Google's UI toolkit for building natively compiled applications for mobile, web and desktop from a single codebase



<u>SwiftUI</u>: Apple's new declarative framework for creating apps that run on iOS



React: A JavaScript library for building user interfaces



<u>Jetpack Compose</u>: a **modern toolkit** for building native Android UI (<u>released July 2021</u>)

# **Jetpack Compose**

- Jetpack Compose is a modern UI toolkit for Android
  - It simplifies UI development with less code and intuitive Kotlin APIs that follow best practices
- A declarative component-based programming model
  - UI is built using composable functions
    - Each function define a piece the app's UI programmatically by describing WHAT to see (layout/ look and feel) NOT HOW
  - As state changes the UI automatically updates (Reactive UI)
     (without imperatively mutating UI views)
  - Inspired by/similar to other declarative UI frameworks such as React and Flutter



# How to define a piece of UI?

- UI is composed of small reusable components
- UI Component = Composable function:
  - Just a function annotated with @Composable
  - Takes some <u>inputs</u> and emits a piece of <u>UI</u>
  - Describes the desired screen state (WHAT to see)
    - Compiler takes care of the HOW and constructs UI widgets
  - Converts the input data into UI



- UI = f(state): UI is a visual representation of state
   (e.g., display a tweet and associated comments)
- State changes trigger automatic update of the UI

#### **UI** as a function

```
fun Greeting(name: String) =
String
                                                       stdout
                    println("Hello, $name")
                  Mark as a composable
                @Composable
                fun Greeting(name: String) =
Data
                    Text("Hello, $name")
```

**Greeting** function uses the input data to render a Text widget on the screen

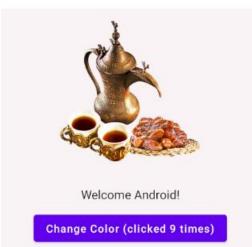


@Composable

#### **UI = Composition of UI functions**

 The top-level composable function describes the UI by calling other composables and passing them the appropriate data



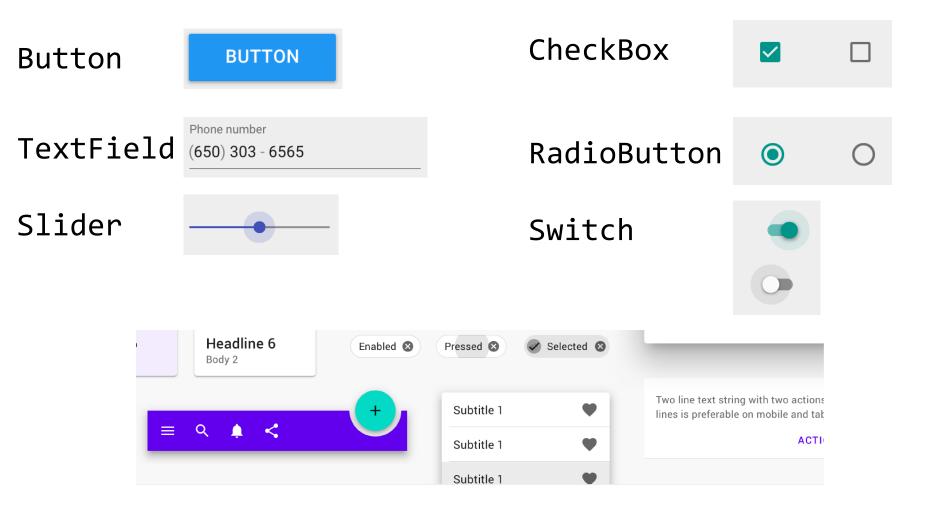


```
fun WelcomeScreen() {
    var userName by remember { mutableStateOf( value: "Android") }
    Column { this: ColumnScope
        NameEditor(name = userName, nameChange = { newName -> userName = newName })
        Welcome(userName)
@Composable
fun NameEditor(name: String, nameChange: (String) -> Unit) {...}
@Composable
fun Welcome(name: String) {...}
```

# **App Entry Point**

- When the app launches it creates and starts the Main Activity (specified in AndroidManifest.xml)
- The Activity acts as a container to load the UI main screen using setContent in the onCreate method

# **UI Components**





#### **Text box**

Text() displays a simple text

```
Text(
    text = "Jetpack Compose",
    style = MaterialTheme.typography.h4
Text(
    ر"سور القرآن الكريم" = text
    textAlign = TextAlign.Center,
    modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth(),
    style = TextStyle(
        fontWeight = FontWeight.Bold,
        fontSize = 24.sp,
        color = Color.Blue,
        textDirection = TextDirection.Rtl
```

Jetpack Compose

سور القرآن الكريم

## **TextField**

 TextField() collects input from a user. For more styling options, use OutlinedTextField()

```
@Composable
fun NameEditor(name: String, onNameChange: (String) -> Unit) {
    OutlinedTextField(
        value = name,
        onValueChange = onNameChange,
        label = { Text("Your name") }
}

    Android
```

#### **Button**

```
Button(onClick = {}) {
    Text("Button")
OutlinedButton(onClick = {}) {
    Text("OutlinedButton")
TextButton(onClick = {}) {
    Text("TextButton")
// Search icons @ https://fonts.google.com/icons
IconButton(onClick = { }) {
    Icon(
        Icons.Outlined.Search,
        contentDescription = "Search",
```

**Button** 

OutlinedButton

**TextButton** 

Q



## **Image**

Displays an image from the res/drawable folder

```
Image(painter =
    painterResource(R.drawable.img_compose_logo),
    contentDescription = "Jetpack compose logo",
    modifier = Modifier.height(300.dp))
```



## **Other Basic UI Components**

- RadioButton() allows selecting from multiple choices
- CheckBox()

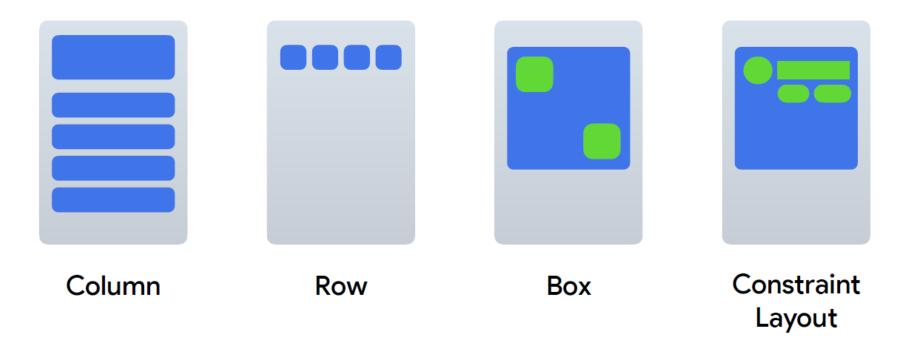
# Layouts





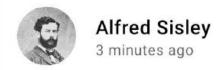
## Layouts

- Use a Layout to position UI elements on the screen
- Row position elements horizontally
- Column position elements vertically
- Box position elements in the corners of the screen or stack them on top of each other



## **Row & Column Example**

- Group multiple basic layouts to create a more complex screen
- Use vertical or horizontal Arrangement to change the position of elements inside the Row or Column



## **Box Example**

```
@Composable
fun ArtistAvatar(artist: Artist) {
    Box {
        Image(/*...*/)
        Icon(/*...*/)
    }
}
```



# **Box Example (1 of 4)**

```
Box(modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth()) {
    Column(
        modifier = Modifier
             .padding(16.dp)
             .fillMaxWidth()
        Text("Column Text 1")
        Text("Column Text 2")
        Row(
            modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth(),
            horizontalArrangement = Arrangement.SpaceEvenly
        ) {
             Text(text = "Row Text 1")
             Text(text = "Row Text 2")
    Text(
        "Stack Text",
                                                        Column Text 1
                                                                                      Stack Text
        modifier = Modifier
                                                        Column Text 2
             .align(Alignment.TopEnd)
                                                               Row Text 1
                                                                               Row Text 2
             padding(end = 16.dp, top = 16.dp)
```

}

# **Box Example (2 of 4)**

```
Box(modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth()) {
    Column(
        modifier = Modifier
             .padding(16.dp)
             .fillMaxWidth()
    ) {
        Text("Column Text 1")
        Text("Column Text 2")
            modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth(),
            horizontalArrangement = Arrangement.SpaceEvenly
            Text(text = "Row Text 1")
            Text(text = "Row Text 2")
    Text(
        "Stack Text",
                                                       Column Text 1
                                                                                     Stack Text
        modifier = Modifier
                                                       Column Text 2
            .align(Alignment.TopEnd)
                                                                              Row Text 2
                                                               Row Text 1
             padding(end = 16.dp, top = 16.dp)
```

# Box Example (3 of 4)

```
Box(modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth()) {
        modifier = Modifier
            .fillMaxWidth()
        Text("Column Text 1")
        Text("Column Text 2")
        Row(
            modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth(),
            horizontalArrangement = Arrangement.SpaceEvenly
        ) {
            Text(text = "Row Text 1")
            Text(text = "Row Text 2")
        }
    Text(
        "Stack Text",
                                                        Column Text 1
                                                                                      Stack Text
        modifier = Modifier
                                                        Column Text 2
            .align(Alignment.TopEnd)
                                                               Row Text 1
            padding(end = 16.dp, top = 16.dp)
```

# **Box Example (4 of 4)**

```
Box(modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth()) {
        modifier = Modifier
            .padding(16.dp)
            .fillMaxWidth()
        Text("Column Text 1")
        Text("Column Text 2")
            modifier = Modifier.fillMaxWidth(),
            horizontalArrangement = Arrangement.SpaceEvenly
            Text(text = "Row Text 1")
            Text(text = "Row Text 2")
    Text(
        "Stack Text",
                                                        Column Text 1
        modifier = Modifier
                                                        Column Text 2
            .align(Alignment.TopEnd)
                                                               Row Text 1
                                                                              Row Text 2
            padding(end = 16.dp, top = 16.dp)
```

## **Surface & Card**

- A Surface can hold only one child with an option to add a border and elevation
  - Add a layout inside Surface to position multiple elements
- A Card is a just a Surface with default parameters

## **Responsive Layout**

- Use the weight modifier in Row and Column layouts:
  - Use weights to change the proportion of the screen child elements will use
- Modifier.fillMaxWidth() fill available width
- Modifier.fillMaxHeight() fill available height
- Modifier.fillMaxSize() fill available width and height
- Use <u>Constraint Layout</u> (self-study) for more control for complex scenarios

# **Modifiers**



#### **Modifiers**

- Modifiers are used to configure and customize the style (i.e., look) or behavior of UI components
  - Style UI element such as colors, borders, paddings, layout parameters to control spacing and positioning
  - Add behavior to UI elements such as making the element clickable or scrollable
- Several modifiers can be chained
  - Each modifier modifies the composable and prepares it for the next modifier in the chain
  - The order of modifiers in the chain matters

## **Modifiers Chain**

- Modifiers can be chained and the order matters!
  - Applied in a sequential way and the order impacts the behavior

```
Text(
    text = "Hello",
    modifier = Modifier.padding(16.dp)
    .background(color = Color.Red)
)
```

```
Text(
    text = "Hello",
    modifier = Modifier.background(color = Color.Red)
    .padding(16.dp)
)
```

# **Another Modifier Example**



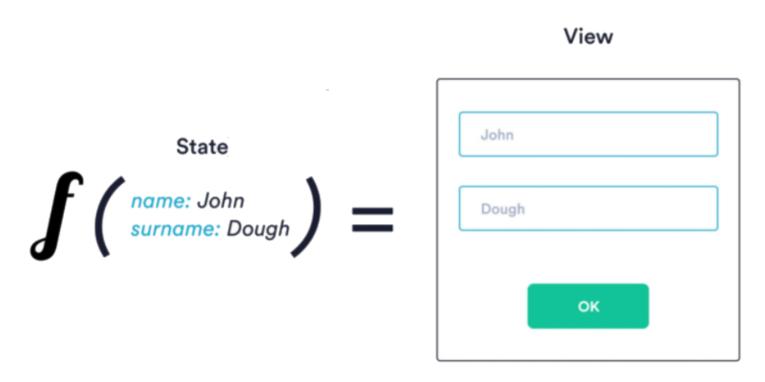
## **Surah Card**



```
@Composable
```

```
fun SurahCard(surah: Surah) {
    Card (elevation = 10.dp,
        backgroundColor = if (surah.type == "Medinan") lightGreen else lightYellow,
        modifier = Modifier
            .fillMaxWidth()
            .padding(horizontal = 5.dp)
            .border(width = 2.dp, color = Color.LightGray, shape = RoundedCornerShape(8.dp))
    ) {
        ROW (verticalAlignment = Alignment.CenterVertically,
             horizontalArrangement = Arrangement.spacedBy(4.dp),
             modifier = Modifier.padding(5.dp)
        ) {
            val imgResourceId = if (surah.type == "Medinan") R.drawable.ic madina
                                else R.drawable.ic mecca
            Image(painter = painterResource(id = imgResourceId),
                  contentDescription = "Surah Type",
                  Modifier. height (50.dp)
            Column(verticalArrangement = Arrangement.spacedBy(2.dp)) {
                Text(text = "${surah.id}. ${surah.name} - ${surah.englishName}")
                Text(text = "Aya count: ${surah.ayaCount}")
```

## State



https://developer.android.com/jetpack/compose/state



#### **State**

- State = any value that can change overtime
- State variable must be declared as

var stateVar by remember { mutableStateOf(default) }

- Remember is used to store values of state variable in the composition tree (to preserve the values during the recomposition)
  - the stored value is returned during recomposition
- State variable are observed by the Jetpack compose runtime
  - Any value changed in the state will trigger the recomposition of any composable functions that read value
  - Every place a state variable is displayed is guaranteed to be autoupdated

## Imperative UI vs. Declarative UI

 Imperative UI – call a setter on the view to change its internal state

```
TextView greetings = (TextView) findViewById(R.id.tv_greeting)

greetings.text = "Hello world."

Hello world.

ANDROID:ID = "@+ID/TV_GREETING"
```

- UI in Compose is immutable
  - In compose you cannot access/update UI elements directly (as done in the imperative approach)
  - The only way to update the UI is by updating the state variable(s) used by the UI elements – this triggers automatic UI update
    - E.g., displayed *greeting text* can only be changed by updating the *name* state variable

```
@Composable
fun WelcomeScreen() {
    var name by remember { mutableStateOf("Android") }
    Greeting(name)
}
```

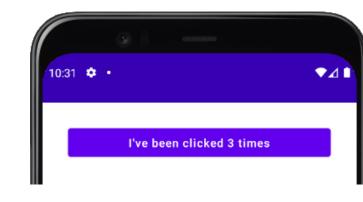
```
@Composable
fun Greeting(name: String) {
   Text(text = "Hello $name!")
}
```

## Recomposition

- When the user interacts with the UI, the UI raises events such as onClick
  - Those events should notify the app logic, which can then change the app's state
  - When the state changes it causes the composable functions to be automatically called again with the new data => this causes the UI elements to be redrawn
  - This process is called recomposition
- The Compose framework can intelligently recompose only the components that changed

## **Recomposition Example**

Every time the button is clicked, the UI raises onClick event to notify the app logic, which increments clicksCount state variable

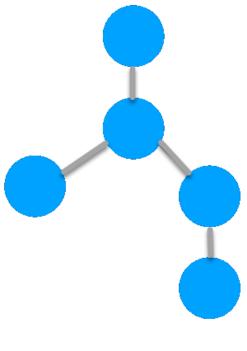


This causes a recomposition to take place, i.e., the ClickCounter function is automatically called again to redrawn the Button

```
@Composable
fun MainScreen() {
    var clicksCount by remember { mutableStateOf(0) }
    ClickCounter(clicks = clicksCount, onClick = { clicksCount += 1 })
@Composable
fun ClickCounter(clicks: Int, onClick: () -> Unit) {
    Button(onClick = onClick) {
        Text("I've been clicked $clicks times")
```

# How recomposition works

- Creates an abstract representation of the UI and renders it
- 2. When a change occurs, it creates a new representation
- 3. Computes the differences between the two representations
- 4. Renders the differences [if any]



## Stateful versus stateless

- A stateful composable uses remember to store an object in the composition tree
  - However, stateful composable tend to be less reusable and harder to test
- A stateless composable that doesn't hold any state
  - The caller controls and manages the state
  - An easy way to achieve stateless is by using state hoisting

## **State Hoisting**

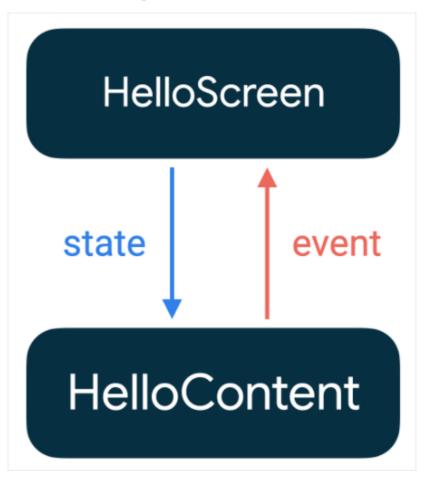
- To make a composable stateless, extract its state and move it to the caller of the composable
- Then pass the state to the composable as an immutable parameter, along with a callback function that the UI can call to update that state in response to events (e.g., onValueChange, onExpand and onCollapse):
  - name: String the current value to display
  - onNameChange: (String) -> Unit a callback that requests the value to change
- Hoisted state can be shared with multiple composables

# **State Hoisting - Example**

```
@Composable
fun HelloScreen() {
    var name by remember { mutableStateOf("") }
    HelloContent(name = name, onNameChange = { name = it })
@Composable
fun HelloContent(name: String, onNameChange: (String) -> Unit) {
    Column(modifier = Modifier.padding(16.dp)) {
        Text(
            text = "Hello, $name",
            modifier = Modifier.padding(bottom = 8.dp),
            style = MaterialTheme.typography.h5
        OutlinedTextField(
            value = name.
            onValueChange = onNameChange,
            label = { Text("Name") }
```

#### **Unidirectional Data Flow**

= a design where state flows down and events flow up



State flows down via function parameters (i.e., name)

(State change)
Events flow up via callback functions

(i.e., onNameChange)

By hoisting the state out of HelloContent, it can be reused in different situations, and it is easier to test

## **Summary**

- Declarative UI is the trend for UI development
- UI is composed of small <u>reusable</u> components
- UI Component = Composable function
  - just a function annotated with @Composable
- Layout are used to position UI elements
- UI in Compose is immutable
  - It only accepts state & exposes events
  - Unidirectional data flow pattern:
    - State flows down via parameters
    - Events flow up via callbacks

#### Resources

Jetpack compose tutorial

https://developer.android.com/jetpack/compose/tutorial

Jetpack compose Code Labs

https://developer.android.com/courses/pathways/compose

- Compose Samples

https://github.com/android/compose-samples